

VALLEY FREE PRESS

THE LEHIGH VALLEY'S
GAY & LESBIAN OPINION & NEWSPAPER

VOL. 6 NO. 4

MAY TO EARLY JUNE 2003

SERVING THE LEHIGH VALLEY'S GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY SINCE 1998!



F.A.C.T. FUN IN THE SUN

At Berleigh Country Club, Kutztown, May 18. Cocktails- 6pm, Buffet Dinner- 7pm with entertainment by Stevie Z and Kato. There will be a live auction by Chuck Versaggi and a fashion show of clothing provided by Pacific Sunwear. \$45.00 per person. For more information contact FACTLV.org or call: 610-820-5519.

HUH?

THEN SANTORUM SAID...

"Justice White said virtually the same thing that I said, that if you allow any kind of exception -- excuse me -- if you do not prohibit -- excuse me -- if you tell the states that they cannot regulate in this area, because anything that is consensual within the home is not -- you can't regulate that, then you leave open the door for a variety of other sexual activities to occur within the home and not be regulated. That's what Justice White said."

--Actual reply by Senator Rick Santorum to student Tom Donahue in Santorum's "Town Meeting" in Williamsport, PA on April 27.

LIBRARY CENSORSHIP?

A VFP reader called VFP to ask for help in challenging Allentown Library on its blocking of the gay internet site Planet Out. Read what happened in What's That About on page 6.



GLOSS

On May 31, The Gay & Lesbian Organized Sports Society will be having the GLOSS volleyball, cookout, game night, end of season/start of season combo extravaganza. Volleyball will start at 2pm, cookout at 5pm and games at 7pm. For more details contact GLOSS: Phone: 610-434-2966, Email: info@gloss.org.

PRIDE FESTIVAL SUNDAY - JUNE 22 SEE PAGE 3 FOR DETAILS

ARE WE DANCING?

The Allentown Swing Dance Society holds lessons and open dances every Tuesday night from 7-10:30pm at the Fearless Fire Hall. But do they include same-sex dancing? Read about one person's experience on page 6.



DINING OUT FOR DIVERSITY FOR PRIDEFEST 2003

Enlighten your taste buds and help raise funds all at the same time -- Thursday, May 15, between 4pm and 10pm at Red Robin Restaurant on Tilgham Street in Allentown. 10% of your total check amount will be contributed to help sponsor the 2003 LV Pridefest. To participate, simply pick up a voucher at the door the night of the event and present it to your server.



PA-GALA TO HOST SPECIAL BENEFIT PERFORMANCE OF THE PLAY "BRICKS"

BY SUE SNEERING,
AT THEATRE OUTLET

Friday, May 16, at 8pm.
Wine & hors d'oeuvre
reception
begins at 7pm.

PRIMARY ELECTION
CANDIDATES WILL
ATTEND THE
RECEPTION TO TALK
TO LV GLBT VOTERS.

Tickets for play & reception:
\$20, Benefits PA-GALA &
Theatre Outlet.

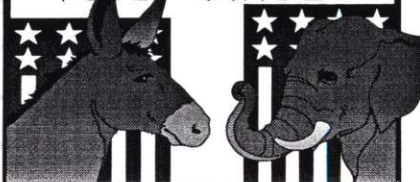
Contact PA-GALA for tickets:
610-432-5449, liztrish@aol.com

STUDY PUBLISHED

"A Study of Gender Identity: Are Transsexuals More Like Heterosexuals, Or Homosexuals," by Tim Chadwick, Julie Brinker, and Andrew Koffman has been published in the Spring/Fall 2003 edition of the prestigious Lehigh University publication, The Lehigh Review. One of the authors of the study, Tim Chadwick is a LV PFLAG board member and activist in the LV GLBT community.



PRIMARY ELECTION DON'T FORGET TO VOTE -- MAY 20





CAROLYN LEWIS WILL BE BACK NEXT MONTH WITH A NEW PLANET PARENTHOOD ARTICLE.

PFLAG LV

Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays Lehigh Valley meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month starting at 7:00PM at the Allentown First Presbyterian Church, Cedar Crest Blvd. and Tilghman Street. For meeting dates of other area PFLAG chapters, see page 4. For more info call: 610-967-5219.

LV meeting on May 6: Here is your chance to learn about religion and ask those burning questions, of the following panelists: Rev. Harold Kreider -- a retired Mennonite Pastor, Rev. Beth Goudy -- Pastor at the Metropolitan Community Church LV., Melissa Klein -- Student Rabbi at Am Haskalah, a Reconstructionist Synagogue in Allentown, Rev. Peter Bredlau -- Lutheran Pastor and Chaplain at Muhlenberg College.

STATEMENT FROM PFLAG'S NEWSLETTER BY PFLAG PRESIDENT DON KOHN

Members of the Latino community, both straight and gay, worked with the GLBT community to stop the petition that would have resulted in overturning the Allentown Anti-discrimination law that affects our gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender friends.

PFLAG should take a more active part in joining with other groups and organizations to better promote our community and celebrate our contributions to our diversity. We must take Felix (Molina President of the Puerto Rican Cultural Alliance) up on his offer. PFLAG alone or in combination with other GLBT groups should participate in the Puerto Rican Cultural Alliance's annual parade. While we are at it, let's look for other opportunities to interact with other organizations and send a message about cooperation and diversity.

PFLAG MONROE

PFLAG Monroe County will now be meeting on the 1st Wednesday of each month from 7:00 until 9:00 pm at the Eastern Monroe Public Library at 1002 North 9th Street in Stroudsburg, PA.

OVOM SAYS THANKS

Steve Libby says: Thanks to all involved with our recent screening. From the volunteers and contributors (food, drink and raffle items) to Kate & George and the VFP for always welcoming and promoting our films. A special thanks to the people who share their lives and trust us to tell their stories. Thanks to those who took time to give us quality feedback. This wasn't your typical documentary (on purpose) and we appreciate your thoughts. Our goal for the rest of 2003 is to become a 501(c)(3) non-profit. Then to re-edit and submit our first 4 docs to film festivals nationwide. Questions or to volunteer contact me at STL327@hotmail.com.

OVOM FUND-RAISER PLANNED

Local artist/teacher (and celebrity stalker) Shawn Mazzatta has been working on a fund-raiser for One Vision, One Mission Productions. He has been using his contacts to collect celebrity memorabilia for a silent auction scheduled for August. Time and place TBA. Donations so far include: a Franklin Mint Doll from Liz Taylor, signed photo book from Anne Geddes, script from the cast of All My Children, signed T from the Indigo Girls, and autographs from La Liz, John Travolta, Kathy Najimy, Joan Rivers, Phyllis Diller and hmmm...Chareton Heston(?) among others. Any suggestions/requests contact Shawn at smazzatta@aol.com.

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RAGS TO RICHES TAKE THE FIRST STEP

by Denise McKelvey

Dear Denise, Here's my financial situation: I've recently decreased my credit card debt. I currently have 3 cards with no more than \$150 combined debt at any one time. I'm still paying off my \$25,000 student loan which I just consolidated to 3% interest. I've saved up \$6,000 as an emergency fund by moving back in with my parents in September of last year. My question is relatively simple. Should I just continue to pay off my student loans or do I take half of my saved nest egg and deposit it into an IRA or some other investment? **Signed, Puzzled**

Dear Puzzled, You didn't mention whether you have a job, but I'll assume you also have "earned income."

I believe the market still has considerable risk, but less, obviously than when it was much higher. The worst thing which can happen is you invest in a Roth IRA and it continues to decline. If you've missed the deadline to contribute to a Roth IRA for 2002. However, by investing \$3,000 this year and continuing to do so throughout your working years, you would be in better shape financially than most individuals. I see no reason to pay off your student loans early, if they are at 3%. As for emergency funds, work to build your cash reserves to at least 3 to 6 months of your expenses.

"Investing" is not a separate choice from contributing to a Roth IRA. Roth IRAs are a flexible way of shielding your investment returns from being subject to federal and/or state and local income taxes. You can withdraw money from a Roth IRA without a penalty (you just can't withdraw the growth). Virtually anyone who qualifies for a Roth IRA (with income under \$95,000-\$110,000 single) should take full advantage of this excellent tax shelter.

Denise McKelvey is a financial advisor for American Express Financial Advisors, Inc. located at 5000 Tilghman Street Suite 157 Allentown PA 18104. Please forward your e-mails to denise.mckelvey@aexp.com. Some strategies may not be suitable for your specific financial situation.

GLOSS UPDATES

BOWLING--AGLOSS member is organizing bowling and is looking for interested members. Please contact GLOSS if you are interested in bowling.

SKATING RECAP--GLOSS's roller skating event was attended by 61 people, which gave Pride a generous donation. The HAVEN leaders and Jazman Star did a good job of promoting it, many young people attended.

OTHER ACTIVITIES -- GLOSS sponsors many activities to keep you busy throughout the year, among them: volleyball, tennis racquetball, bowling, bridge, ballroom dancing and snow sports. For more information call: 610-434-2966 or visit the GLOSS website at <http://www.gloss.org>.

If you would like to organize a GLOSS sport or event, please contact GLOSS.

GAY MEN'S CHORUS CONCERT

On Saturday, June 7, The Lehigh Valley Gay Men's Chorus and the Treblemakers women's chorus of Westminster Choir College, will be joined by Broadway actress Laurie Gamache, and soloists Buddy Symes (director of the Silicon Valley Gay Men's Chorus, San Jose, CA) and soprano Jackie Dunleavy Boyle, for LVGMC's Spring concert. The concert will be at 8:00 PM at the Wesley United Methodist Church, 2540 Center St., Bethlehem. Part one of this concert will be a reprise of "Prayers for Bobby".

The concert will also feature a diverse set of music featuring numbers by the chorus and guests. Included will be the world premiere of "I Dream'd in a Dream", an arrangement of Walt Whitman's poem by LVGMC's artistic director, Jay Kawarsky. Tickets are \$12, with Seniors and Students at \$6. Reserve tickets by calling 610-266-2220.

HOT NEWS

B&N GLBT BOOK CLUB

Barnes and Noble selections for the Gay and Lesbian book discussion group are: Tuesday, May 20 at 7:00PM, "The Swimming Pool Library," by Alan Hollinghurst. Tuesday, June 17 at 7:00PM, "Strangers on a Train," by Patricia Highsmith. The group meets at the Whitehall store. All are welcome.

FACT PICNIC

FACT's Picnic at South Mountain Grove will be on July 27. Held under South Mountain Grove's large pavilion, there will be music and games of chance. Food, soda and beer provided. Rain or shine. As always, all money raised goes to people affected or infected with HIV/AIDS. For more information on this and any upcoming events go to FACT's web site at FACTLV.org.

GLORA SCHEDULE

The Gay and Lesbian Organization of Reading and Allentown is a social group that holds various events in the community. On Saturday, May 10, there will be a BUNCO dice game night in Bethlehem. It's simple, fun and easy to learn.

On July 19, there will be a cookout party at Liz and Trish's in Allentown.

GLORA encourages anyone who's willing to host or plan an event to contact the group. Events can be as simple as going to a movie, on a hike or playing a round of miniature golf. For more information, directions or if you would like to plan an event, please contact GLORA at GLORAINPA@aol.com or write: GLORA, PO Box 1952, Allentown, PA 18105-1952.

DIAMONZ BENEFIT FOR PRIDE

Benefit at Diamonz for Pride. Friday, May 23. Showtime 10pm. Miss LV Trash Contest at Diamonz.

GLSEN MEETING

The Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network will be meeting the 2nd Monday in May at Muhlenberg College, Seager's Student Union - rms 108-109. Contact info: Carol Barron, 610.867.6641 or lvdukefan@aol.com

19TH ST. FILM SCHEDULE

All the Real Girls -- April 26 - May 4, Laurel Canyon -- May 3-11, Raising Victor Vargas -- May 10-17. For information on these films check the theatre website at: civictheatre.com/film/schedule.html or call 610/433-8903. The 19th St. Theatre is in the 500 block of N. 19th St. in Allentown.

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ACCO

ACCO, A Chorus Celebrating Women performs at Mayfair, Cedar Beach Park, Allentown, Thursday, May 22. Free. 610/434-5074. Elemental Rhythms in Dance, Drum, and Song: a song/dance/drumming collaboration featuring Paulo Mattioli; Tahya; ACCO, A Chorus Celebrating Women; and Laura Goldstein. At Mayfair, Cedar Beach Park, Allentown, Saturday, May 24 at 3 p.m. Free. 610/434-5074.

ACCO, A Chorus Celebrating Women, continues their 10th Anniversary Season celebrating their roots in women's music. At: Godfrey Daniels Coffeehouse, 7 East Fourth Street, Bethlehem, Friday, June 13, 8 p.m. \$13.50 610-867-2390

PRIDE FILM

Pride of the Lehigh Valley continues its monthly film screenings with the Thai film, "The Iron Ladies," on Saturday, May 10 at 7:30PM in room 212 of the Unitarian Church, 424 Center St, Bethlehem. "The Iron Ladies," tells the true story of a Thai male volleyball team that competes in the national championships in 1996 with a team consisting mostly of gays, transvestites and transsexuals. 2000; Comedy; Thai with English subtitles.

PRIDE FESTIVAL

Pride of the Lehigh Valley's 10th annual Pride Celebration will be held on Sunday, June 22, at Cedar Beach Park in Allentown, PA. This annual outing for Eastern PA's gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community features live entertainment, merchants and artisans, business services and community organizations, great food, a Kidspace activity area for children, and a parade! In addition, an ecumenical service of worship will be held immediately following the close of the festival. The events rain or shine and runs from noon to 6pm.

The 5th annual Pride Parade commences at the corner of 10th and Hamilton Streets in Allentown, PA at 12:30pm and continues down Hamilton Street to the festival grounds. Esteemed politicians, community organizations, businesses and individual marchers will take to the street in a colorful procession of diversity and culture.

PFLAG ACTIVISM BUMPS TROUBLING NOMINEE IN NH

Gary Daniels, a controversial nominee to the New Hampshire Human Rights Commission, withdrew his name from consideration after a NH PFLAG's grassroots campaign revealed anti-gay sentiments made by the nominee during debate over the 1997 bill which expanded the state's civil rights laws to include gays and lesbians.

STEVIE Z SCHEDULE

StevieZ will be appearing at the Stonewall-Mooselounge on Friday, May 16 from 9PM-Midnight and again on Friday, June 13. Stevie is also at the Brick Tavern Inn in Quakertown on May 3, 10, 17 and 24, as well as June 14, 21 and 28 -- Call (215) 538-0865 for reservations. For April/May the recipient of half of all tips received will be FACT (Fighting AIDS Continuously Together). Stevie is also the accompanist for the Lehigh Valley Gay Men's Chorus concert on June 7.

INTEGRITY

Integrity met Friday, May 2 at 6:30 for Eucharist, potluck and fellowship. The Rt. Rev. Paul Marshall, bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Bethlehem, was present. Call 610-691-8303 or 610-758-8642 for more information about future Integrity meetings.

HOWARD DEAN

Steve Black has been tapped by the Howard Dean election team to organize Howard Dean's Presidential Campaign in the GLBT community of the Lehigh Valley. As Governor of Vermont, Dean signed the Civil Union legislation into law and has expressed firm support of equal rights for the gay community. If you are interested in the Dean campaign, contact Steve Black at smbblack@epix.net.

AIDS DISCRIMINATION

An HIV-positive man was denied admission to a Pennsylvania personal care home in Lycoming County, on the basis that his illness would make staffers "uncomfortable." The AIDS Law Project of Pennsylvania, has filed a complaint with the State's Department of Public Welfare and the federal Civil Rights and Equal Opportunity offices last week. State and federal agencies will now investigate and issue their own findings, which could result in fines against the home. Under a variety of laws, including the Federal Disabilities Act, it is illegal to deny care or discriminate against someone because they have, or are suspected to have HIV/AIDS.

7 SENSES HEALTH CENTER

7 Senses Health Center is celebrating its 1 year anniversary in May! Free events for May, June, July include: Labyrinth walks: May 3 and July 5, 1pm to 6pm and Drumming Circles: May 2, June 6, and July 5, 7pm to 9pm. 7 Senses Health Center is at 960 Broadway in Fountain Hill, 610-807-3677.

LIST IN GAYELLOWPAGES

VFP encourages every GLBTA group in the LV to get or update a free listing in the national publication - the Gayellowpages. The Gayellowpages has been a primary GLBT contact resource for 30 years. They also list and link on the Internet. There are extensive entries under Lehigh Valley, PA, with more than 40 different listings. To be listed or to update-email: gayellowpages@earthlink.net.

CALENDAR⁴

ACCO-A Chorus Celebrating Women,
AIDS Outreach-112 N. 5th St. Allentown, PA
610.435.8424

AIDSWALK- AIDSWALK Lehigh Valley -
610.974.8701 www.regiononline.com/laids
ASC- AIDS Service Center 610.974.8701

BMA- Bucks/Montgomery Alliance for Gay and
Lesbian Concerns 215-529-0360

B&N- Barnes and Noble Gay&Lesbian Book
Club, White Hall store, Monthly, 7:00pm

BEARS-1st Saturdays Monthly, 8pm, at the
Stonewall, Moose Lounge 610-814-
6916, Mtnbear@fast.net.

CIVIC and 19th St. Theater, 527 N 19th St, 610-
432-8943, <civictheater.com>

Enigma Players-- qacres@prolog.net
equal@agere- email: equal@agere.com

FACT- Fighting AIDS Continuously Together
610.820.5519

GLEEatAir Products
GLISN- at Dun & Bradstreet,
<vagranthollow.com/GLISN/>

GLORA- Gay and Lesbian Organization
of Reading and Allentown (Social gatherings,
various dates) Newsletter- The Tassle. Write to:
P.O. Box 1952, Allentown PA18105-1952, email-
GLORAINPA@AOL.COM

GLOSS- Gay and Lesbian Organized Sports
Society, P.O.Box 21862 Lehigh Valley, PA 18002
610.434.2966.

GLOW-atPPL
GLSEN-Gay, Lesbian, Straight, Education
Network, 610-867-6641, csbarron21@aol.com

Meetings, at 7:00 pm in rooms 108-109 of the
Seeger Student Union, Muhlenberg College

GMLV- Gay Men of the Lehigh Valley, 2nd
Saturdays Monthly 7pm, 610-709-8800

HAVEN GLBT Youth Group of the UUUC LV -
call: 610-868-2153, email: havenyouthgroup
@hotmail.com or zinnes@fast.net

HMFF-Hope Ministry Family Fellowship,
Sundays, 11 am, Open Space Gallery, 931
Hamilton St. 610-791-0716

Integrity- Lesbian & Gay Episcopalians Family
& Friends meets quarterly. 610-758-8642
gamba.guy@verizon.net

KS-Kindred Spirits- Support, discussion, and
social group for lesbians and bisexual women
Contact : Chris at 610-868-0248, or Donna at
610.997.00607

LVGMC -Lehigh Valley Gay Men's Chorus,
email: info@lvmgc.org, <www.lvmgc.org>
610-366-3320, rehearsals: Wesley United
Methodist Church, 2540 Center St., Bethlehem

MCC - Metropolitan Community Church,
Merchants Square Mall, 1901 S. 12th Street,
Allentown Services: 10:30am & 6pm, mcclehigh
valley@yahoo.com, http://www.mcclv.org 610-
709-8800

NCC- Northampton Community College GLB
Student Union, 610.861.5541(#1386) or 882-
2531

19th St/Civic Theatre- 610.432.8943
OutThere- Students at Cedar Crest College

OVOM- LV Documentary Film Org.
PA-GALA - PA Gay And Lesbian Alliance for
Political Action, (Candidate Info Booklet, &
Political Lobbying) For membership: send \$20
to: P.O.Box 20825 Lehigh Valley 18002
610.432.5449 pa-gala.org

PFLAG - LV Parents Families & Friends of
Lesbians and Gays, 1st Tues. 1st Pres. Church A
l l e n t o w n 6 1 0 . 9 6 7 . 5 2 1 9
<HTTP://www.eastern-pa-pflag.org/>

Pride - Pride of the Lehigh Valley, (Pride Festival)
610.770.6200, email: <lvpride@hotmail.com>,
<www.pridelv.org>

QUEST - Student group at Lafayette College
Farion Center Box 429 Easton, PA,
<QuEST_Lafayette@hotmail.com>

MAY 2003 PRIMARY ELECTION MAY 20

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|-----------------|---|--|---|---|---|
| | | | | 1 GLOSS HAA RAA ACCO Air Products All Together Now | 2 | 3 WDIY BEARS StevieZ 7Senses |
| 4 HMFF UUCLV MCC GLOSS | 5 RAA | 6 LVGMC GLOSS LV PFLAG | 7 HAVEN PFLAG M MCC yoga MCC yoga | 8 RAA ACCO GLOSS | 9 | 10 WDIY Gloss StevieZ Pride Film |
| 11 | 12 RAA GLSEN | 13 GLOSS LVGMC | 14 MCC yoga HAVEN | 15 ACCO RAA GLOSS PFLAG P Dining for Diversity | 16 Bricks Presentation W/PA-GALA CANDIDATE Night | 17 StevieZ WDIY |
| 18 FACT FUN IN THE SUN MFF UUCLV GLOSS | 19 RAA | 20 PFLAG B PRIMARY ELECTION B&N BOOKCLUB | 21 HAVEN MCC yoga | 22 ACCO RAA GLOSS | 23 Pride Benefit KS | 24 StevieZ GLOSS WDIY |
| 25 HMFF UUCLV MCC GLOSS | 26 RAA | 27 MCC LVGMC GLOSS | 28 MCC yoga HAVEN | 29 | 30 | 31 GLOSS WDIY |

JUNE 2003 PRIDE MONTH

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|----------------|--|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 HMFF UUCLV MCC GLOSS | 2 RAA GLSEN | 3 LV PFLAG LVGMC GLOSS | 4 HAVEN PFLAG M MCC yoga | 5 RAA ACCO GLOSS | 6 KS 7Senses | 7 GAY MENS CHORUS CONCERT |
| 8 HMFF UUCLV GLOSS | 9 RAA GLSEN | 10 LVGMC GLOSS | 11 HAVEN MCC yoga | 12 RAA ACCO GLOSS | 13 ACCO KS StevieZ | 14 GLOSS StevieZ WDIY |
| 15 HMFF UUCLV MCC GLOSS | 16 RAA | 17 SPARC GLOSS LVGMC B&N BOOKCLUB | 18 MCC yoga HAVEN | 19 ACCO PFLAG P RAA GLOSS | 20 KS | 21 StevieZ MCC WDIY Play GLOSS |
| LV PRIDE FESTIVAL LV PRIDE PARADE | 23 RAA | 24 LVGMC GLOSS | 25 HAVEN MCC yoga | 26 ACCO Lehigh U. GLOSS RAA | 27 KS | 28 StevieZ GLOSS WDIY |
| 29 MCC to NYC PRIDE PARADE | 30 RAA | | | | | |

JULY 2003

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---------------------------------|---------------|--|--------------------|----------------------------|--------|--------------------------------------|
| | | 1 GLOSS LVGMC LV PFLAG | 2 HAVEN PFLAG M | 3 | 4 | 5 WDIY 7Senses BEARS GLOSS |
| 6 WDIY HMFF UUCLV MCC | 7 RAA | 8 GLOSS MCC LVGMC | 9 HAVEN | 10 GLOSS RAA | 11 | 12 WDIY GLOSS |
| 13 WDIY HMFF UUCLV MCC | 14 | 15 LVGMC GLOSS PFLAG R B&N BOOKCLUB | 16 HAVEN | 17 RAA GLOSS PFLAG P | 18 KS | 19 WDIY GLOSS GLORA COOKOUT |
| 20 MCC WDIY HMFF | 21 MCC RAA | 22 GLOSS LVGMC MCC | 23 HAVEN | 24 RAA GLOSS | 25 KS | 26 WDIY GLOSS |
| 27 WDIY MCC HMFF | 28 RAA | 29 GLOSS LVGMC | 30 HAVEN | | | |

Quakers-Lehigh Valley Friends Meeting-Route 512 1/2 mi. North of Rte 22 Bethlehem, PA. Worship at 9:30 am. (610)691-3411.

RAA- Rainbow AA meetings, Mon. & Thurs. Episcopal Church, 16th & Turner Atown.

Ren- Renaissance Transgendered Assoc., P.O.Box 157 Trexlertown 18087 - 610-814-0530/0531

Rainbow Space - Muhlenberg College Organization 610.821.3244

Reading P-FLAG-610.488.7533or 670.8029

Safe Space-At Lehigh U. 610.758.5973

Saint John's Lutheran Church- A welcoming, gay affirming church, 32 S. 5th st. Allentown 610.435.1587

Softball-(Women's) call Diamonz. 610.865.1028

Spectrum- at Lehigh Univ. 610.758.5973

T.O. - Theatre Outlet-29 Nth 9th St, Allentown, 610-820-9270.

Unity-26 N. 3rd St. Emmaus, 767-4417

UUCLV - Unitarian Universalist Church LV, 424 Center St., Bethlehem, 18018 610.866.7652.

VFP - Valley Free Press, 610.432.5449, liztrish@aol.com

VYH - Valley Youth House for emotionally troubled GLBT youth 610.432.6481

WDIY - WDIY - 88.1 fm 93.9 fm Saturday 7:00 pm This Way Out, Assorted Women 7:30 pm. 610-694-8100.88.

SPECIAL UPCOMING EVENTS:

GLBT YOUTH GROUP
HAVEN- WEDNESDAYS
LV BEARS- 1ST SATURDAYS
LV PFLAG- 1ST TUESDAYS
MONROE PFLAG- 1ST WEDNESDAYS
READING- PFLAG 3RD TUESDAYS
POTTSVILLE PFLAG- 3RD THURSDAYS
GLOSS VOLLEYBALL- THESDAYS
GLOSS TENNIS- SUNDAYS
GLOSS RACQUETBALL- TUES & SATS
MCC BOOK SHOP 2ND & 4TH TUES
KINDRED SPIRITS
- ALL FRIDAYS EXCEPT THE 1ST

MAY 3 - STEVIE Z @ BRICK TAVERN
MAY 3 - LABYRINTH WALK 7 SENSES
MAY 6 - PFLAG-1 ALLENTOWN
MAY 10 - YOGA @ MCC
MAY 10 - PRIDE FILM
MAY 10 - STEVIE Z @ BRICK TAVERN
MAY 10 - GLORA GAME NIGHT
MAY 12 - GLSEN
MAY 14 - YOGA @ MCC
MAY 15-17 - BRICKS @ TO
MAY 15 - DINING FOR DIVERSITY
MAY 16 - STEVIE Z @ MOOSELOUNGE
MAY 16 - BRICKS PERFORMANCE
TO BENEFIT PA-GALA & TO
MAY 17 - STEVIE Z @ BRICK TAVERN
MAY 18 - FACT FASHION SHOW
MAY 20 - PRIMARY ELECTION DAY
MAY 20 - B&N GLBT BOOKCLUB
MAY 21 - YOGA @ MCC
MAY 22 - ACCO @ MAYFAIR
MAY 23 - PRIDE BENEFIT - DIAMONZ
MAY 24 - STEVIE Z @ BRICK TAVERN
MAY 31 - GLOSS EXTRAVAGANZA
JUNE 3 - PFLAG-LV ALLENTOWN
JUNE 6 - DRUM CIRCLE 7 SENSES
JUNE 7 - GAY MEN'S CHORUS
JUNE 13 - ACCO @ GODFREY DANIELS
JUNE 13 - STEVIEZ @ MOOSELOUNGE
JUNE 14 - STEVIEZ @ BRICK TAVERN
JUNE 15 & 17 - SPARC TRAINING
JUNE 17 - B&N GLBT BOOKCLUB
JUNE 21 - MCC JUDY AND ME
JUNE 21 - STEVIEZ @ BRICK TAVERN
JUNE 22 - LV PRIDE FESTIVAL
JUNE 28 - STEVIEZ @ BRICK TAVERN
JUNE 29 - MCC BUS TO NYC PRIDE
JULY 1 - PFLAG-LV ALLENTOWN
JULY 5 - LABYRINTH WALK 7 SENSES
JULY 19 - GLORA COOKOUT

INFORMATION SUBJECT TO
CHANGE CALL TO CONFIRM! TO
POST INFO: 610-432-5449
EMAIL: LIZTRISH@AOL.COM

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THEATRE AT MCC

The Metropolitan Community Church LV Fellowship Team is bringing the New York play, "Judy and Me" to the church on Saturday night, June 21 at 8pm. The ticket price is \$20.00 per person.

Although this particular play deals with a gay teenager coming to terms with his sexuality and dealing with an abusive father, through the music of Judy Garland, anyone of any age can relate this to their favorite music or performer. The message delivered through this play is POWERFUL and not to be missed.

MCC NYC PRIDE TRIP

The MCCLV Fellowship Team will be chartering a bus to New York City for the Gay Pride Parade on Sunday, June 29. The bus will depart from the church at 1901 S. 12th Street, Allentown at 9am and will then depart from New York City at 8pm. The ticket price is \$20.00 per person. Come along and experience the enormous sense of community that only an event of this magnitude can provide.

For more information on these events please contact MCCLV at 610-709-8800.

MCC OFFERS YOGA

Don't forget that MCCLV's Yoga classes started in April. Balance your health, gain strength and confidence while achieving greater peace in your life. Classes are Wednesdays from 7:30-8:30 p.m. at the church. The classes will be taught by Dr. Robert Roush, a professional Yoga instructor at 7 Senses Health Center and Lehigh Carbon Community College. Don't miss this opportunity for this reasonably priced class (only \$5). Proceeds will go to MCCLV.

VFP PUBLICATION DEADLINES

Submissions for June 2003 issue, deadline Wednesday, May 21.
Submissions for June Pride Festival issue - covers July 2003, deadline Saturday June 14.
Submissions for combined August-September Issue 2003, deadline, Monday, July 21.
Submissions for October 2003, deadline Sunday, September 21.
Submissions for November 2003, deadline Tuesday, October 21.

RANTS & RAVES BY STEPHEN T. LIBBY

Expectations: "Busted & Otherwise"

During a March snowstorm my boy and I snowshoed our way to the local cinema to see the much hailed *The Hours*. As any movie fan could tell you this multi-oscar nominee was adapted from Michael Cunningham's Pulitzer Prize winning novel. Stars Meryl Streep, Nicole Kidman, Julianne Moore and Ed Harris have taken home arm loads of awards for their roles. My expectations were, to say the least, HIGH. Now, I hate when people (guys) say, "it must have been a chick flick, cuz I didn't get it." And I love all kinds of movies from trashy horror screamers to popcorn action flicks to intense dramas to romantic comedies. But I did not enjoy *The Hours*. It felt more like *The Days*. Oh the story was good and the acting was fine, particularly J. Mo. But it wasn't until we snuck into the second movie, *Daredevil*, that I understood my reaction to T.H..

Daredevil stars (miscast) Ben Affleck, a lovely and action packed Jennifer Gardner and a VERY FUN Colin Farrell (more about him later). The reviews had been atrocious and my expectations were low (read in a much smaller font). However when we left the cinema that day it was *Daredevil* that had entertained me more. More than Moore you ask? How is that possible? I probably would've enjoyed *The Hours* more, had I not expected this "life and/or solar system changing" experience. The only person that can change my solar system is me. I needed to except *The Hours* for what it was. If it didn't offer enough to educate me on Virginia Woolf, then I must take responsibility to educate myself. The trick is to allow the movie to be what it is. It is not the filmmakers responsibility to meet MY expectations. But rather for me to use that cinematic experience as a starting place to further my education.

Recently my new documentary, *My Trans Mission*, was under fire for something similar; not meeting a viewer's expectations. And I took it personally. Until a good friend reminded me that it is impossible to educate everyone in that audience to the same level. On a scale of 1-10 some are at a 2 and some (such as the critic) are at a 15. So the 15 is going to be disappointed if our goal is to present a basic learning tool (with some comic relief for easy digestion), to maybe start a conversation and have the 2 graduate to a 5 or 6 by the time they leave the theatre.

I certainly believe everyone has the right to HIGH expectations, but please don't hold others accountable for your almost constant state of disappointment.

Now on to Colin Farrell. He is raw. He is a profanity spewing, hard living, chainsmoking, casual-sex loving guy. And I have loved him since the Fall of 2000 when I first saw him on the cover of *Interview* magazine. My BF met him in NYC and said he's even cuter in person. He oozes testosterone and uses words like twt, f'ck and bugger so often that his TV interviews are a constant barrage of "bleeps." That's why I prefer to read him. I have read he is to star in Oliver Stone's big screen story of (gay) Alexander the Great. For now we will refer to him as Colin the Great. Yum!!!! I'm negotiating with Liz & Trish to change the name of the column to Chatting 'bout Colin. Next month: GLBT dish & dirt. Smooches, Steve.

Steve's
Picture
Here
(He wants
a new one.)

What's That About?

6



Readers write or email
"What's That About?"
editors with questions
about gay and lesbian issues.



LIBRARY CENSORSHIP?

A VFP reader and Allentown Library patron named Kim, called VFP because she had tried to access Planet Out on the library's internet computers and had found the site blocked by the library. "Anyone who knows Planet Out, knows it is mainly a gay news site, with up-to-the-minute reports," said Kim, "and the strange thing is, I was able to access the site at the library just last month."

Kim asked VFP to follow up on her concern and she said she would try to do so as well. "The next day, I was actually talking to the Internet librarian on the phone, when Kim came up to her in person at the library," says Liz. "The librarian was very nice, she agreed to access the Planet Out site and show Kim why it was blocked, while I stayed on the line. The librarian was mostly concerned about the 'personals' part of the site."

After quite a while however, it became clear to the librarian that while there is information about Planet Out personals, one cannot access them through Planet Out, unless you pay to log on or you go through a separate new site (which means you can't get to the personals from the library). So she agreed to unblock the Planet Out site. The next day, VFP Editor Trish Sullivan had no trouble accessing Planet Out at the library.

Thanks to Kim for her work on not only recognizing what was unnecessary censorship, but helping to remedy the situation!!! And thanks to the Atown Library for listening to her and our concerns.

ARE WE DANCING?

Yes, we are...Here's what Fabio Urbina of GLOSS says about his experience dancing at the Fire Hall:

"The Allentown Swing Dance Society holds lessons and open dances every Tuesday night from 7-10:30pm at the Fearless Fire Hall. The price of admission is only \$7 and it includes a beginner lesson, an intermediate/advanced lesson and open dancing. Even though the focus is on the different varieties of swing, the lessons and dance also include two-step and Latin (cha cha, salsa and merengue). You do not need a partner to attend."

The Society is primarily straight, even though there are some gay people. It is not unheard of for women to be in the leading role, and for people of the same gender to dance together. The people who attend seem very friendly. The first night I attended I felt comfortable enough to dance with a male friend.

Sometimes they bring in instructors from New York City who are gay themselves, or who participate in a dance program for the GLBT community. The instructors are very talented dancers and they make learning fun.

The Society does not have an official policy regarding the participation of GLBT people. However, if you would like to learn partner dancing this is a great place to do it. I encourage you to give it a try. The worst that could happen is you'll have to dance with someone of the opposite gender. Gasps!

The Fearless Fire Company is located at 1221-1229 S. Front St., Allentown. Website: at <http://www.allentownswingdance.org>

ST. LUKE'S HOSPITAL POLICY

A VFP reader phoned to ask WTA if St. Luke's Hospital has an anti-discrimination policy that includes sexual orientation and gender identity.

VFP Editor Trish Sullivan spoke to the Human Resources Department at St. Luke's. They have a policy that includes "sexual preference," but no inclusion of gender identity. Of course St. Luke's facilities in Allentown, would have to follow the city's ordinance. Trish also asked if St. Luke's gives domestic partnership benefits to same-sex partners. The HR person said she'd get back to her, but she hasn't. Trish says, "I don't think St. Luke's gives DP benefits at this time, but I'm going to continue to work on an expanded version of this story." Stay tuned.

SCOTT SAYS

By Scott Laubner



GREEK TO ME

Two months ago I watched the runaway hit My Big Fat Greek Wedding. What a hoot! The scene with the lamb on the spit in the front yard had me laughing out loud. One of the early scenes shows the father driving Tula, the daughter, to school and lecturing all the passengers. He says all English words come from Greek words, and he embarrasses his daughter with his discussion. After dropping her off at school, he leans out of the window and says to her...**be proud of who you are.**

I wondered how many words I hear everyday have Greek origins?

Any guy who took swimming lessons at the YMCA in the 1950s and 1960s can guess the word "gymnasium" comes from the Greek word for "naked."

In March 2002, Allentown City Council voted to add sexual orientation and gender identity to its list of protected classes. To all those involved, we witnessed democracy at work. "Democracy" comes from "rule by the people."

If an ex-boyfriend ever called you a "sybarite," he meant you are given to pleasure and gratification of the sensual appetites. Sybaris was an ancient Greek city renowned for its notorious luxury.

I have always been a little envious that the women of our tribe are named after an exotic sunny island, the sun-drenched shores of sandy Lesbos. It sounds like a wonderful place from which to derive a name. The word "Sapphism" comes from there too.

Though not a geographic term, the word "Homosexual" begins with the Greek prefix for "same." (I think "sexual" is self-explanatory.)

So my little chipmunk readers, with an ancient Greek pedigree like this...**be proud of who you are!**

PREDICTION: JOHN PAULK

"Ex-gay" spokesman John Paulk has reported that he is stepping down from his leadership role in Focus on the Family's (FoF) campaign to "convert" gay people to heterosexuality. Paulk says he plans to move his wife and sons to the Pacific Northwest from Colorado to be with extended family. Neither he nor FoF have been specific about his plans. Three years ago, Paulk caused a scandal after being spotted chatting up guys in a Washington gay bar.

VFP Editor Liz Bradbury says, "I predict John Paulk is now going to cash in on his previous experiences by actually coming out and then insisting that 'ex-gay ministries' are wrong minded and ineffectual. I bet he'll be seeking TV interviews with Oprah and Larry King in which he will now insist that there is nothing wrong with being gay and that God has told him to become an ex-ex-gay poster boy. Paulk has been such a PR seeking opportunist all his life, it's hard not to imagine that this will be his next move."

FOR LEGAL INFO ON 2ND PARENT ADOPTION

For information on 2nd parent adoption or if your lawyer has questions call The Center for Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights in Philadelphia toll free at 1-866-LGBT-LAW.

Valley Free Press does not discriminate on the bases listed in the anti-discrimination statement on page 8, and asks that organizations or individuals which request VFP to publish information about their events maintain a similar policy.

SPARC TRAINING

SPARC training - June 16 & 17. A two day intensive training on everything from grant writing to building a better board, and other information about non-profit organizations. Training, registration & meals are included for all SPARC members. For information: 717-920-9537, www.sparc-pa.org or info@sparc-pa.org.



LIZ OUT LOUD 7

MY OPINION ON THE PRIMARY *By Liz Bradbury*

It's almost time for the Primary Election and I am sure glad I don't live in Bethlehem! This year, both Bethlehem and Easton have races for Mayor. In Easton, there are some good candidates. Michael Fleck is at the top, with Bill Houston next and Phil

Mittman fair. But in Bethlehem... well, either the candidates can't be bothered to tell constituents their views, or they think it's a joke. Jim Gregory has been particularly foolish. Maybe, I'll feel differently if PA-GALA gets more Bethlehem information, but right now, I wouldn't vote for any of those guys.

City Council races include Allentown, Bethlehem, and Easton. In Allentown, Marty Velasquez, who cosponsored and voted for the anti-discrimination amendment, has my vote. As does Melvin Riddick who seems like a smart and fair minded guy. I have spoken at length with Will Power and though he has a reputation for sometimes over the top behavior, he seems like a nice guy who believes in equal rights for all people. In Easton, Carol Hefley seems like a good candidate.

On the other hand, in Allentown, I encourage everyone not to vote for incumbents Lou Herschman and David Bausch. Neither voted for the anti-discrimination ordinance, and both signed the referendum petition to remove the ordinance. Herschman even circulated a petition himself. Over 30 people removed their names from his copy of the petition, when they found out he had misled them into signing. Both Herschman and Bausch lied to the media, saying they didn't support the new law because the Boy Scouts were not exempt, even though they knew the Boy Scouts were exempt.

I'll be voting for Miriam Lavandier and Chuck Versaggi for Allentown School Board, and Frank Concannon for Controller.

Perhaps most important this year, are the County Judge races. These are ten year terms with additional ten year confirmation terms. That means, when one of these people gets elected, they stay until they die. In Lehigh County there are two openings. So far, Jerry Snyder, and Mary Eidelman seem the best. I've noticed that Jim Anthony, who feels his biggest selling point is that he was a Marine, is being strongly backed by anti-gay activist K.K.Kercher. Guilt by association may be unfair, but I won't be voting for Anthony. By the way, every Judge is cross filed. In Northampton County, Theresa Hogan looks the best to me. She has worked on many second parent adoption and custody cases. This is especially important for our community because 95% of GLBT court cases involve people fighting for the custody of their own kids.

There are dozens of other races. PA-GALA is doing its best to provide information to everyone on as many races as possible, including statewide judge races for which everyone will vote. When you get your PA-GALA Candidate guide read it carefully, then go to the polls on May 20, and VOTE.

Elected Officials in Puerto Rico, again, I would not have gone on this trip had it not been oked by the city. I take responsibility for upgrading my airline seat. I will pay for the up grade, I have already arranged to do so. I have already stated publicly that if the city finds I owe any other amount, I will pay for it.

I went to this important conference to seek information on how other communities, cities and countries are dealing minority issues in general, and with regard to anti-discrimination ordinances, like that of the city of Allentown, in particular. I was seriously concerned by the actions of violence prone hate groups that visited Allentown last year, and hoped to gather information and support from other officials on how they have dealt with these issues. In my report to Council I will cover this and other issues and concerns discussed in the conference. I am particularly concerned about the violence based racist, anti-Semitic and homophobic hate mail that continues to be received by Allentown citizens and City officials. The news media continues to mention a memo with a question from Barbara Bigelow about a \$1600 "cash" advance to me. The newspaper makes it sound as though the city gave me \$1600. That is not the case. I did not receive a cash advance for this trip. In reality, this was a memo that contained a question Ms. Bigelow had about the trip. It was not sent to me, but to the President of Council. I have been told that her question was fully answered and that the amount she was concerned about was in reality the direct payment for the trip to the airline and hotel. I further must state that to date, I have not received any memos or written concerns about these trips from anyone.

With regard to my real estate brochure in which I mentioned that I am a City Council member. I realize that while I had meant only to indicate my experience, people could perceive that to be inappropriate or a conflict of interest. I will remove any reference to my City Council membership. I apologize for any misunderstanding about that.

I strongly agree that the City must be fiscally responsible. I also know that training and professional development conferences for city officials are included in the City's budget because it is important for city officials to try to gather as much information as possible to allow them to deal with a variety of issues in a proactive way. In some cases this means that city officials should go to conferences and gatherings of representatives of other cities or of professionals that may be giving seminars, presentations or workshops. The city of Allentown cannot exist in a vacuum if it wants to overcome it's problems. We must seek to learn from other successful city programs. I further feel that one of the most serious problems the city has, is the constant criticism by people who seek only to tear down rather than to build up. Too many voice negativity without any effort to make positive change. In short, it is very easy to criticize. Finding successful solutions is the hard part. In the next City Council meeting, I plan to introduce a resolution that requires that all applications for training and professional development by City employees, appointees, and elected officials be submitted in writing and receive prior approval by a majority vote of Council.

TRISH'S COLUMN

By Patricia Sullivan



The Morning Call has just had a field day with Gail Hoover. She gave this complete press release statement to the Call several days before they took her legislation idea and pretended it was their own in their editorial. They also never bothered to print her statement, and they continued to print questions about "the \$1600 cash advance," even after the city had publicly confirmed she never got one. Here's Gail's Statement:

From: Allentown City Council member Gail Hoover, April, 17th, 2003

On Wednesday night (April, 16th, 2003), I was unable to attend the Allentown City Council meeting due to a commitment to my Church. I had no intention of being discourteous to anyone about any issue at hand. The denomination in which I was raised, selects this day before Easter as the most important of Church observances. I have attended this important Church service on this day, every year of my life. I did so on April 16th.

I feel that it is important for all elected officials to work for and represent their constituents in a pro-active way. I ran for office with this as a priority. I feel that much of the recent news stories of my attendance at two training and professional development conferences for elected officials has been misrepresented in order to make them more sensational in an election year. However, I also do not want to be the kind of elected official who refuses to acknowledge mistakes or take responsibility for them.

I attended these conferences to seek pro-active and positive solutions to some of the problems of the City of Allentown. Obviously it was necessary for me to request support for the trips before hand from the City, in order to attend them. I was encouraged to go. If any part of City Government had told me not to attend these conferences, I would not have gone.

It was suggested that I attend the conference on REITs in San Francisco. A REIT (Real Estate Investment Trust) is a company that owns, finances and operates income-producing commercial real estate. At this conference various REIT companies gave information about their REIT's to other fund managers and cities the size of Allentown and larger, in order to encourage them to invest money, like pension funds and city tax surpluses, in REITs. These are commercial real estate ventures. I do not deal with commercial real estate in my business. There was no possible way for me to benefit personally from going to this conference. I attended presentations and workshops. I was there to see whether these REIT investments might be good for the City.

The city's travel agent made all the arrangements for the trip. I followed the travel agent's itinerary. I had and have no reason to believe that the agent made extravagant choices. The trip was extended in order to get the lowest possible air fare.

The news reports have made it sound as though a stretch limo picked me up at the airport. It was, in fact, a regular car, available, like hundreds of others to business travelers, for convenience to hotels and inner city destinations. I was told that this was the most economical and safest way to the hotel. It was \$100 round trip, not each way as the news media has made it sound. While this may sound like a lot of money, I was told that a taxi can be even more expensive. Had I known that there was a hotel shuttle, I certainly would have taken it. However, I did not personally make the arrangements for this trip.

If City Council members request a report on this conference, on the viability of REITs and other information I was able to gather from the trip, I will make the information available to them. I will of course, do the same for the other conference I attended as well.

With regard to the conference of the International Network of Gay and Lesbian Elected Officials in Puerto Rico, again, I would not have gone on this trip had it not been oked by the city. I take responsibility for upgrading my airline seat. I will pay for the up grade, I have already arranged to do so. I have already stated publicly that if the city finds I owe any other amount, I will pay for it.

POP QUIZ

8

- The upcoming Primary Election is on Tuesday ____:
A. May 13 B. May 20 C. June 3 D. June 10
- The transgender woman who won a seat in the Setagaya Municipal Assembly in Tokyo, is named:
A. Aya Kamikawa B. Isamu Naguchi
C. Takuso Tabita D. Toshio Toda
- Who just said to GLAAD: I'm sorry I wasn't here sooner. Seriously?"
A. Madonna B. Howard Dean
C. Rosie O'Donnell D. Hillary Clinton
- Which of these movies, that all had gay directors, has made the most money so far? A. 9 to 5
B. Grease C. Chicago D. Lilo & Stitch
- Which of these cities just passed an anti-discrimination ordinance that includes sexual orientation and gender identity? A. El Paso
B. Boise C. Nashville D. Tiajuana
- Who sang, "Come Out, Come Out Wherever You Are.?" A. Bert Lahr B. Judy Garland
C. Margaret Hamilton D. Billie Burke
- In what year did F.A.C.T. form in the LV?
A. 1979 B. 1985 C. 1989 D. 1992
- According to the Oxford English Dictionary (1995) the definition of "bigot" is:
A. A person who hates racial minorities
B. An obstinate & intolerant believer in a religion, political theory, etc.
C. foolish, stupid, hateful
D. one who is non-inclusive
- The term of a Lehigh or Northampton County Judge elected in this Primary is:
A. 4 years B. 6 years C. 8 years D. 10 years
- After the first term, a Lehigh County Judge can be reelected to a second term of ____ years by a simple affirmation vote. A.4 B.6 C.8 D.10

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

QUOTE #5

"(Bush has) substituted ideology for thoughtful policy." -- Democratic presidential candidate Howard Dean to The Advocate, April 1.

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We believe it would improve the quality of life in the Lehigh Valley if all people were equally protected from anti discrimination based upon actual or perceived: race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry or place of birth, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, family status, age, disability, or use of guide animal, in the areas of employment, housing, and public accommodation.

- PA-GALA
- Valley Free Press
- Allentown Human Relations Commission
- Safe-Space of Lehigh University
- PFLAG Lehigh Valley
- ACCO - A Chorus Celebrating Women
- GLORA
- Pride of the LV
- LV Gay Men's Chorus
- NCC GLBT Student Union
- The Lehigh Valley Labor Party
- EQUAL! at Agere
- Metropolitan Community Church LV
- OutThere - Cedar Crest
- 9th Street Shelter Allentown
- LV Community Action Committee
- GLEE at Air Products

- FACT
- AIDS Outreach
- The Unitarian Universalist Church LV
- GLOSS
- LEPOCO
- GLISN of Dun & Bradstreet
- AIDS Services Center
- Theatre Outlet
- Integrity - Bethlehem
- The Lehigh Valley Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)
- Civic Theater 19th Street Theater
- The Latin Alliance
- The Enigma Players
- New Covenant Family Ministries
- Properties of Merit
- Allentown City Democratic Committee
- Episcopal Diocese of Bethlehem
- Puerto Rican Cultural Alliance
- Turning Point of the Lehigh Valley

To add your organization to this list, call 610-432-5449 or email VFP (litzish@aol.com).

QUOTE #1

"All I want out of this is for me and other gay students to be able to go to school without being preached to and without being expected to lie about who we are. I'm through with being silenced, and I don't want this happening to other gay kids at my school."
— 14 year old Arkansas Junior High School student Thomas McLaughlin. The ACLU has brought suit against this school, for punishing him for being gay.

QUOTE #2

"Our nation faces a serious shortfall in the number of trained professionals who can speak and decipher the languages critical to our national security,"
— C. Dixon Osburn, executive director of the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network on 15 recent discharges of gay and lesbian linguists from the military, bringing the total to 24, with a majority trained in Arabic and Korean.

QUOTE #3

"Pennsylvania's Junior Senator Rick Santorum has come under well-deserved fire for his comparison of homosexuality to bigamy, polygamy, incest and adultery. This, taken together with the long string of offensive remarks made by a variety of Republican officeholders at the local, state and federal levels of government, has sparked outrage and dismay due to its insensitivity. So I am urging the Republican leadership not only to condemn Senator Santorum's remarks, but to take action on Majority Leader Bill Frist's promise to make the GOP more inclusive by the immediate removal of Senator Santorum from his leadership post."
--Pennsylvania Democratic Chairman, State Representative T.J. Rooney of Bethlehem

QUOTE #4

"A federal court has ordered Boyd County High School, which shut down all school clubs in December in an attempt to silence community controversy over the school's Gay Straight Alliance (GSA), to let the GSA, as well as all other clubs, start meeting again."
-- ACLU News Release from Ashland, KY

Distelfink⁵ / 03 'Actual Quote from the same interview'

Santorum said: Because society is based on one thing: that society is based on the future of the society. And that's what? Children. Monogamous relationships. In every society, the definition of marriage has not ever to my knowledge included homosexuality. That's not to pick on homosexuality. It's not, you know, man on child, man on dog, or whatever the case may be. It is one thing. And when you destroy that you have a dramatic impact on the quality."



Then the AP Reporter replied: I'm sorry, I didn't think I was going to talk about "man on dog" with a United States Senator it's sort of freaking me out."

Gay people can have children and monogamy. Santorum was not quoting the Supreme Court.

The editorial columns and political cartoon that appear in Valley Free Press express the opinions of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or attitude of this publication. VFP makes no indication of the sexual orientation of persons, organizations, or businesses mentioned in any issue.